

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ISO-00

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5436

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNRWA UN

SUBJ: UNRWA PLEDGING CONFERENCE

REF: USUN 5238, STATE 232579 NOTAL

1. ANALYSIS OF NOV 30 UNRWA PLEDGING CONFERENCE MADE BY UNRWA LIAISON OFFICE AT UN RECEIVED DEC 6. IT INDICATES EARLIER PREDICTION OF \$7 MILLION DEFICIT FOR 1974 STILL VALID. THUS, UNLESS ADDITIONAL PLEDGES SOON RECEIVED, PLANNING FOR REDUCTIONS IN SERVICES EXPECTED BEGIN LATE JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY 1974.

2. TOTAL PLEDGED WAS APPROX \$50.6 MILLION FROM 47 GOVERNMENTS (INCLUDING \$23.2. MILLION FROM US.) WHICH \$7.3 MILLION MORE THAN 1973. JAPAN'S INCREASE (\$4.3 MILLION) WAS LARGEST ALTHOUGH THERE OTHER SIGNIFICANT INCREASES: CANADA (MORE THAN \$400,000), FRANCE (APPROX \$400,000 MAINLY AS RESULT OF 3000 TONS OF CEREAL PLEDGED), GERMANY (\$200,000 ALTHOUGH ACTUAL CONTRIBUTION IN 1973 WILL BE MUCH HIGHER THAN THE PLEDGE), NETHERLANDS (MORE THAN \$450,000 PART OF WHICH IS EARMARKED), NORWAY (ALMOST
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\$750,000), SPAIN (APPROX \$250,000) AND SWEDEN (ALMOST

\$700,000 ALTHOUGH ACTUAL 1973 CONTRIBUTION WILL BE CLOSE TO 1974 PLEDGE).

3. SOME GOVERNMENTS WHICH DID NOT ATTEND PLEDGING CONFERENCE ALSO EXPECTED CONTRIBUTE. LIBYA IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE \$600,000 CONTRIBUTION. KUWAIT MAY REDUCE CONTRIBUTION TO \$220,000 FROM \$400,000 IN 1973. SERVICES SUPPLIED BY LEBANON, JORDAN, SYRIA AND ISRAEL (APPROX \$1.1 MILLION FOR 1973) ALSO CAN BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

4. ADDITIONAL ESTIMATEC CONTRIBUTIONS ARE: EEC (\$8.1 MILLION), UN AGENCIES (\$0.9 MILLION), NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (\$1.1 MILLION) AND MISCELLANEOUS INCOME (0.7 MILLION).

5. PROJECTED DEFICT COULD BE REDUCED IF ALL OR PART OF U.S. SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION (\$2 MILLION) RECEIVED, IF GERMANS CAN BE PERSUADED TO KEEP 1974 CONTRIBUTION AT 1973 LEVEL AND IF EEC WILL GO BEYOND \$8.1 CONTRIBUTION ESTIMATED FOR 1974.

6 DETAILED FINANCIAL ANALYSIS WHICH IS SUMMARIZED ABOVE, SENT BY UNRWA LIAISON DIRECTOR VAN WIJK TO ACTING COMMISSIONER GENERAL KONTOS IN BEIRUT. USUN POUCHING COPIES THIS REPORT ALL ADDEES.

7. COMMENTS. UNRWA HAS HISTORY OF SQUEAKING THROUGH FINANCIAL CRISES. NEVERTHELESS THIS YEAR COMMISSIONER-GENERAL RENNIE HAS PUT UN ON NOTICE THAT UNLESS THERE EARLY, SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN CONTRIBUTIONS, REDUCTION IN SERVICES (WITH ATTENDANT UNDESIRABLE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES) IS IMMINENT. BEIRUT MAY WISH COMMENT ON FOREGOING.
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